

**Amendments to the Specification**

**In the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0001] The present invention relates to ~~an electrical switching device as set forth in the preamble of Claim 1. Specifically, the present invention relates to~~ switching devices such as contactors, motor protection switches, miniature circuit-breakers or circuit-breakers, or the like. ~~However, as well as~~ programmable switching devices, such as programmable logic controllers or programmable relays are also intended within the scope of the present invention.

Before paragraph [0002] please delete insert the heading --BACKGROUND--.

Before paragraph [0005], insert the heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0005] The embodiments described above have been largely tried and tested in practice. It is, therefore, ~~the~~ an object of the present invention to provide a switching device which is optimized in terms of the connection system. The intention is both to provide ease of use for the user and to improve the flexibility in terms of the variety of connection options.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0006] Starting from an at least one-pole switching device where each pole has at least one incoming and one outgoing terminal contact, and each of the terminal contacts has first connection means for connection of a first external electrical conductor, ~~this object is achieved by providing~~ the present invention provides at least one of the terminal contacts with second connection means for connection of a second electrical conductor. In a structurally and technically simple way, the switching device of the present invention is provided with both conventionally designed first connection means (such as screw clamp terminals or spring clamp

terminals) and second connection means for additional connection elements, the first and second connection means being formed toward the outside of the housing.

Before paragraph [0013], please insert the heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0013] Further details and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the exemplary embodiment described below with reference to the Figures. ~~The present invention will be exemplified by a contactor representative of all other electrical switching devices. In the drawing,~~ drawings, in which:

Before paragraph [0021], please insert the heading --DETAILED DESCRIPTION--.